

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 078445
ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
COME-00 NSF-02 ERDA-07 /038 R

DRAFTED BY OES/APT/SEP:ASHELDON:GEM
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P 072341Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 078445

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, US, UR

SUBJECT: S&T: ELECTROMETALLURGY: ELECTRON-BEAM
EVAPORATION (01.0303)

REF: STATE 40488, STATE 61311, MOSCOW 3759, MOSCOW 4504

1. IN CONVERSATION MARCH 28 WEEK WITH HUGH SMITH (AT WHICH BUNSHAH PRESENT) DEMCHISHIN DISCUSSED DESIRE OF SOVIET SPECIALISTS TO VISIT US FOR TWO-WEEK PERIOD BEGINNING EITHER APRIL 10 OR APRIL 17.
2. DESPITE SMITH'S PROTESTATIONS THAT POWER SUPPLY COULD NOT BE MODIFIED FOR TESTS IN APRIL OF ELECTRON-BEAM GUN, DEMCHISHIN INFORMED HIM THAT SOVIET TEAM "FOR SCHEDULING REASONS" COULD NOT COME TO US IN MAY, JUNE OR JULY AND THAT SOVIETS WOULD BRING WITH THEM THEIR OWN POWER SUPPLY.
3. SMITH SUGGESTED THAT VISIT TAKE PLACE AFTER JULY BUT PRIOR TO NEXT MEETING OF JOINT WORKING GROUP. DEMCHISHIN
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APPARENTLY FIRM IN HIS BELIEF THAT COMBINED SYMPOSIUM/
JOINT WORKING GROUP MEETING (PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED FOR MAY)
WOULD BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER IN KIEV. AS CONSEQUENCE, DATE
FOR VISIT OF SPECIALISTS AFTER JULY WAS RULED OUT.
(ANTONOV DECEMBER 14, 1976 LETTER TO PROMISEL PROPOSED

POSTPONEMENT OF SYMPOSIUM/MEETING TO FIRST HALF OF

OCTOBER; HOWEVER, NO DATE HAS YET BEEN CONFIRMED).

4. SMITH RELUCTANTLY AGREED TO RECEIVE GROUP ON APRIL 17, BUT POINTED OUT THE CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES WHICH WOULD BE ENCOUNTERED IN RUNNING TESTS ON UN-MODIFIED US EQUIPMENT AND WITH A POWER SUPPLY PROVIDED BY SOVIETS.

5. DEMCHISHIN HAS UNDOUBTEDLY REPORTED TO SOVIETS SMITH AGREEMENT TO RECEIVE SPECIALISTS ON APRIL 17.

6. AS THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE OF THE SPECIALISTS' VISIT WAS TO CHECK OUT SOVIET ELECTRON BEAM GUN ON US POWER SUPPLY, THE US SIDE REMAINS PUZZLED BY THE LATEST PROPOSAL TO USE SOVIET POWER SUPPLIES SINCE THIS WOULD NOT SERVE THE PURPOSE WHICH WAS AGREED UPON IN SEPTEMBER 1976 MEETING OF JOINT PROJECT GROUP. IN ADDITION THE QUESTION OF MAKING PROPER ARRANGEMENTS WITH CUSTOMS HAS NOT BEEN INITIATED BECAUSE OF LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF EQUIPMENT SOVIETS WOULD BRING WITH THEM.

7. PROMISEL, WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM MONTH-LONG VACATION, AGREES WITH SMITH AND OTHER MEMBERS OF U.S. WORKING GROUP WHO QUESTION THE WISDOM OF THESE PROPOSED PREMATURE TESTS, THE RESULTS OF WHICH WOULD BE INCONCLUSIVE.

8. REQUEST EMBASSY DISCUSS FOREGOING WITH ANTONOV AND PROPOSE THAT, IN BEST INTERESTS OF JOINT PROGRAM, SOVIETS RECONSIDER ORIGINAL DATE PROPOSED BY SMITH TO PERMIT
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PROPER MODIFICATION OF US EQUIPMENT FOR RELIABLE TESTING OF E-B GUN.

9. TO ALLOW REQUIRED TIME FOR MODIFICATION OF US EQUIPMENT, WOULD APPRECIATE ASAP SOVIET PROPOSED TIMING FOR VISIT OF SPECIALISTS.

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Disposition History: n/a
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